

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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27 FEB 1992

IN REPLY REFER TO:

92-9 /

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RECEIVED

FEB 28 1992

Honorable David H. Pryor
United States Senate
267 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0402

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Senator Pryor:

Your letter to Mrs. Linda Townsend Solheim, Director of Legislative Affairs, has been referred to me for reply. Your constituent, Ronald E. Plumlee, General Manager of North Arkansas Electric Cooperative, Inc., expressed concern to you regarding proposals to reallocate frequencies at 2 GHz that would impact public utilities currently using those frequencies.

On January 16, 1992, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in ET Docket No. 92-9 that proposes allocating 220 MHz of 2 GHz spectrum for use by providers of emerging technologies. With regard to licensees currently using portions of this spectrum, the Commission proposed to permit state and local government licensees, including public safety agencies, to continue indefinitely their current operations on a primary basis. Other users would be permitted to continue their current operations on a primary basis for a period of time to be established - such as 10 or 15 years. Subsequently, they would be permitted to continue operating only on a secondary basis. Expansion and new microwave systems would be permitted on a primary basis only at higher frequencies. In conjunction with the Notice, the Commission released a staff study of existing use of this spectrum and identified other suitable frequencies available for this purpose. To further facilitate accommodation of the competing demands for this spectrum, the Commission also proposed to permit negotiation of financial arrangements between existing licensees and parties proposing new services. Such an approach would facilitate access to this spectrum for services employing emerging technologies.

These provisions are intended to prevent disruption to the communications of the existing licensees, yet still provide the spectrum needed by U.S. companies to develop new and innovative telecommunications products and services and bolster U.S. competitiveness in world telecommunications markets. An example of one such new proposed service is the personal communications service (PCS), which the Commission is addressing concurrently in GEN Docket No. 90-314.

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Honorable David H. Pryor

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The needs of the existing 2 GHz users are of importance to the Commission, and are being taken carefully into consideration. Please be assured that Mr. Plumlee's concerns will be taken into account before a final determination is made, and for that purpose, I am making his letter part of the record in the two dockets discussed above, ET Docket No. 92-9 and GEN Docket No. 90-314.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas P. Stanley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

DAVID PRYOR
ARKANSAS

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0402

January 31, 1992

COMMITTEES:
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90314
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Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of correspondence I have recently received from a constituent who has asked for my assistance.

This is a matter which I think can most appropriately be addressed by someone from your agency. I would appreciate it if I could receive at your earliest convenience a complete response to the points covered in this communication. Hopefully, your reply will enable me to provide a factual and informative answer to my constituent.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please mark your reply, along with return of the enclosure, to the attention of Vince Ancell of my staff.

Sincerely,



David Pryor

DP/vca
Enclosure



North Arkansas
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Vince

P. O. Box 1000 • Salem, AR 72576

November 29, 1991

The Honorable David Pryor
United States Senator
248 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

The FCC released its Policy Statement and Order in the Inquiry concerning Personal Communication Systems. It announced it's intention to reallocate the 2 GHx band for PCS (Personal Communication Systems) and other emerging technologies. Any such reallocation would drastically effect the members of North Arkansas Electric Cooperative. NAEC has in operation a 2 GHx, 4 hop, 5 tower system that is a vital part of our communication system.

We are concerned about the possible \$500,000 to \$800,000 it would cost our members to relocate from the band. Please consider the cost and effect on quality of service to our members when and if the question of clearing the 2 GHZ band for PCS appears.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald E. Plumlee
General Manager

REF/wh